Repairing of communication system in Andhra Pradesh

82. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Ministre of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details estimated damages to the communications system in Andhra Pradesh due to natural calamities during the last year;

(b) whether Government have repaired all the communication system and if so, how many communication systems have been repaired so far; and

(c) what is the expenditure Government had to incur on the repairs?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There were extensive damages and interruptions in communication system in certain districts of Andhra Pradesh due to cyclones and floods during October and November, 1987.

—Services were affected in 27 exchanges in October, 1987 and in 106 exchangse in November, 1987.

—Services were affected to 621 telephones in October and 4268 telephones in November, 1987.

—Exchanges failed due to power failure.

—local and trunk lines were damaged due to gale winds.

(b) All the communications have been restored.

(c) An expenditure of about Rs. 20.0 lakhs has been incurred in repair and restoration of communications.

Setting up of Thermal Power Plant by BSES

83. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation requesting to reject the proposal to set up a thermal power plant by Bombay Suburban Electric Supply at Dahana, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the representations and what is the point-wise response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) A representation has been received in regard to setting up of a thermal power plant by M/s. Bombay Suburban Electric Supply (BSES) Limited, in and around Dehanu in Maharashtra. It has *inter alia*, been stated in the representation that the proposed project would cause ecological imbalance and jeopardize horticultural development in the area.

No proposal in respect of setting up a power station at Dahanu has been received from M/s. BSES. Their earlier proposal, which was approved in principle, relates to setting up of a 500 MW thermal power station at Bassein near Bombay.

Development of wind energy in Orissa

84. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope in Orissa for generating power through wind energy; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to increase the generation of wind energy in Orissa?